

Wing Tips

108th Air Refueling Wing
New Jersey Air National Guard



October 2008
Volume 8, Issue 9

Commander's Column

Energy Awareness Month

by Lt. Col. Paul Novello, 108th Civil Engineering Squadron Commander

October is the time of year where the trees change their foliage to vivid colors; we start breaking out our sweaters and jackets, and decorate our homes with items for the fall harvest. October is also Energy Awareness Month. The federal government is the largest single energy consumer in the United States and has both a tremendous opportunity and a clear responsibility to lead by example with smart energy management.

Energy management is one of the most challenging tasks facing today's federal facility managers. The Energy Policy Act of 1992, recent Executive Orders and Presidential Directives require federal agencies to meet a number of energy and water management goals, among other requirements.

For example, federal agencies are called upon to reduce their energy use by 35 percent by 2010 in comparison to 1985 levels. The 108th CES staff, as the facility manager for the 108th's facilities, has been incorporating energy saving initiatives in past, present and future projects.

We have re-lamped areas with energy efficient bulbs, saving energy and still providing the required lighting to the customer. An example of this is on our aircraft apron. We are also replacing all of our incandescent lighting with compact fluorescent bulbs.

The 108th recently had a study completed to identify where our plumbing fixtures don't meet water conservation standards. These fixtures will be replaced in upcoming Sustainment, Restoration and Modernization projects. Large scale repair projects, such as the NGB-funded \$4.5 million repair of building 3322 in fiscal year 2010 will include various energy saving systems from the heating system, energy efficient windows and translucent block that will allow in natural light and still maintain a higher level of thermal insulation than that of regular windows.

While we can engineer energy saving infrastructure into our facilities, we still rely on each

individual in the Wing to assist us in our efforts to reduce our energy footprint. Make sure lights and unnecessary equipment is turned off when not needed. Keep doors and windows closed. In the cold months leave the blinds open during the day to let in light and heat, but close them at the end of the day. We are lucky to

be on a rather small base, so walk to your meeting or appointment instead of driving.

As for ways to cut down on your energy costs at home, here are some ideas from the U.S. Dept. of Energy.

Don't Let High Fuel Costs Drive You Nuts

Whether you drive an economy car or an SUV, there are plenty of ways to improve your gas mileage. Avoid aggressive driving and observe the speed limit. Speeding, fast acceleration and hard braking wastes gas. Lighten your load by clearing your car of extra weight and remove roof racks or carriers if not used frequently. Keep current with car maintenance—clean air filters can improve gas mileage by as much as 10 percent. Properly inflated and aligned tires will improve gas mileage by 3 percent. Using the wrong grade of oil can reduce mileage by 1-2

see **Energy Month** on page 6



Front Cover

We're back.... Master Sgt. Maureen Ryan-Oldaker, right, smiles while Tech. Sgt. Bryant Sharpe relaxes after arriving at the 108th on Oct. 26. Nine members of the 108th Services Squadron returned home after being deployed to Al Dahafra Air Base for four months.

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This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of *Wing Tips* are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 108th Air Refueling Wing. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Odds & Ends...

Mentors needed for ChalleNGe youth

Want to make a difference in a young person's life? Volunteer to be a mentor for the New Jersey Youth ChalleNGe Academy. The Academy is looking for mentors that will help shape and develop 16-18 year olds into educated, well-rounded and productive citizens of New Jersey. Please contact Lt April Kelly/108RAW PAO at 609-754-6358 or e-mail april.kelly@njmcgu.af.mil for more details.

Job Fair in Lawrenceville on Nov. 10

To celebrate Veteran's Day and to honor the hard working men and women who have served our country, the Mercer County One-Stop Career Center is sponsoring a Veterans Career Fair on Nov. 10, from 1-4 p.m. at the Lawrenceville Armory, Eggert Crossing Road, Lawrenceville.

The Veterans Career Fair is open to all veterans and those who were recently released from active duty.

Dress professionally and bring 20 copies of your resume. Employers who will be seeking qualified candidates at the fair include Bank of America; Eastern Armored Services, Inc; Federal Air Marshall Service; AutoZone; Hyatt Regency Princeton; School Tyme Transportation; Securitas USA; Liberty Healthcare Services and many more.

Veterans representatives will also be available as well as the VA mobile health screening unit.

For information on the Job Fair or Resume and Interviewing Workshops, contact Lois Bunch, 609-292-3059, lois.bunch@dol.state.nj.us or Al Stahl, 609-292-0656, albert.stahl@dol.state.nj.us.

Calling All Singers!!

If you are interested in singing as a chorus, quintet, quartet, trio, duet or solo, contact Master Sgt. Lisel White at (609) 754-2109 or lwhite@njmcgu.af.mil.

Name, contact info, and if you are soprano, alto, tenor or baritone, should be included in the message.

Gala reunion planned for 170th/108th

Come one, come all – active or retired – for a fun-filled weekend with trips down memory lane. A Gala Reunion is being planned for all of the faces of the 170th and 108th Air Refueling Wing on April 25, 2009.

The elegant semi-formal will be held at the Doubletree Hotel and Executive Meeting Center, 200 Atrium Drive, Somerset, NJ, 6-11 p.m.

A deposit of \$50 is required per person as soon as possible. Hotel reservation, rates and activities will be announced at a later date.

For more information, contact Gloria A. Smith, 732-752-8263/732-991-9102 or Phyllis Jackson-Rackley, 908-451-7147/908-730-6377.

Youth Camp 2009 dates set

From the desk of Amanda Balas, State Youth Coordinator

The dates for 2009 Youth Camp are July 19-25, 2009 at Sea Girt. Applications will be posted on the Web site, www.guardfamily.org/Youth, mid-December 2008. Please stay posted for more information.

Catch Guardlife on the Web

The New Jersey National Guard Magazine "Guardlife," Vol. 34 No. 2 is now available in a user friendly online web version at the following address: <http://www.nj.gov/military/publications/guardlife/volume34no2/>. The "Hometown Team" magazine Guardlife provides up to date information on the happenings within the New Jersey Army and Air National Guard. For all the current news on our soldiers and airmen take a look at the new issue today. To view past issues of Guardlife magazine online you can visit <http://www.nj.gov/military/publications/> on the DMAVA Publications homepage.

Wing Tips Deadline

The deadline for November/December *Wing Tips* is Nov. 24. Articles and photos should be e-mailed to: pa.108arw@njmcgu.af.mil. Please send the raw file. Articles must be in Microsoft Word format. Deadline for January *Wing Tips* is Dec. 29. Deadline for February *Wing Tips* is Jan. 26.

Wing Tips is now accessible to unit members on the internet at <http://www.108arw.af.mil>.

Printed color copies will be distributed to buildings 3324, 3327, 3333, 3369 and 3390.

On the Calendar

October

25-26	UTA
31	Halloween

November

2	Daylight Savings ends
4	Election Day
11	Veterans Day
22-23	UTA
27	Thanksgiving

December

6-7	UTA
21	Winter begins
25	Christmas
31	New Year's Eve

108th Members deploy to Kyrgyzstan

By Staff Sgt. Brian Carson
Wing Tips co-editor

On Sep. 3, members of the 108th Air Refueling Wing located at McGuire Air Force Base, N.J., returned from a deployment to Manas Air Base, Kyrgyzstan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. They were part of the 376 Expeditionary Wing that



included four other Air National Guard Units.

This was the 108th's first Air Expeditionary Forces mission with the newly acquired KC-135R.

The purpose of the deployment was to refuel the various coalition aircraft that were engaged in combat operations in Afghanistan. This was truly a "joint" mission as there were a number of active duty, reserve, and national guard units from different countries and states involved in this operation – France had a KC-135 stationed at Manas, Spain had a few C-130's, and the Dutch had F-16's coming from the Netherlands. Nebraska, Alabama, Wisconsin, and Tennessee also had tanker units taking part.

The 108th members departed McGuire AFB July 21. During this time, each flight crew flew between 120-130 total hours, participated in 45 total sorties, including 40 combat missions over Afghanistan. Also, each

crew off-loaded well over 2 million pounds of fuel during the duration of their mission.

"This was a really rewarding experience due to the mission that was being accomplished," said Lt. Col. Bruce Hamilton, Chief of Tactics, 108th ARW. "We were refueling guys who were actually involved in the war and making a difference which is a great feeling."

This sentiment was further echoed by Tech. Sgt. Samantha Gerofsky, a boom operator for the 108th ARW.

"We had a direct impact on the combat operations in Afghanistan, particularly with refueling the planes in-theater and also with back-up radio communications," said Gerofsky. "We were able to keep the planes in the fight for much longer because we would refuel them on-scene."

Life in Manas was not all work, however.

When picturing what a military base in Kyrgyzstan must look like, it is not a stretch to think that a deployment there would be less than comfortable or boring; however, this was not the case. There were many activities and various things to do for all members stationed there to participate in during the down times. For example, the base had sponsored events such as bingo, decade nights, and also had a movie theater and gym for the members to enjoy.

Another positive aspect to the "quality of life" in Manas was that the base was equipped with unrestricted high speed wireless internet.

"I was able to log onto a website that enabled me to talk on the phone to my family back home," said

Gerofsky. This access also allowed members to check their email accounts, stay current on local/



national news, and visit their favorite websites all while being half-way across the world.

The 108th's mission in Manas, Kyrgyzstan can be summed up in one sentence:

"This mission was the 108th's best combat flying ever," said Lt. Col. Paul Giblin, the 108th ARW Aircraft Commander.

The 108th members that went on the deployment are as follows:

Tech. Sgt. Richard Badey
Staff Sgt. Jeremy Bartram
Major Timothy Baughman
Staff Sgt. Robert Butler
Tech. Sgt. Samantha Gerofsky
Lt. Col. Paul Giblin
Lt. Col. Bruce Hamilton
Staff Sgt. Raymond Nieves
Master Sgt. Richard Saccone
1st Lt. Michelle Williams



Halloween Safety Tips

From the 108th ARW Safety Office

Trick or Treaters

Stay on sidewalks, walk, don't run, and carry a flashlight.

Obey traffic signals and stay in familiar neighborhoods.

Don't cut across yards or driveways.

Wear a watch you can read in the dark.

Make sure costumes don't drag on the ground.

Shoes should fit (even if they don't go with your costume).

Avoid wearing masks while walking from house to house.

Carry only flexible knives, swords or other props.

(If no sidewalk) walk on left side of the road facing traffic.

Wear clothing with reflective markings or tape.

Approach only houses that are lit.

Stay away from and don't pet animals you don't know.

Parents

Make your child eat dinner before setting out.

Children should carry quarters so they can call home.

Ideally, young children of any age should be accompanied by an adult.

If children go on their own, be sure they wear a watch, preferably one that can be read in the dark.

If you buy a costume, look for one made of flame-retardant material.

Older children should know where to reach you and when to be home.

You should know where they're going. Although tampering is rare, tell children to bring the candy home to be inspected before consuming.

Look at the wrapping carefully and toss out anything that looks suspect.

Homeowners

Make sure your yard is clear of such things as ladders,

Safety Corner

hoses, dog leashes and flower pots that can trip the young ones.

Pets get frightened on Halloween. Put them up to protect them from cars or inadvertently biting a trick-or-treater.

Battery powered jack o'lantern candles are preferable to a real flame.

If you do use candles, place the pumpkin well away from where trick-or-treaters will be walking or standing.

Make sure paper or cloth yard decorations won't be blown into a flaming candle. Healthy food alternatives for trick or-treaters include packages of low-fat crackers with cheese or peanut butter filling, single-serve boxes of cereal, packaged fruit rolls, mini boxes of raisins and single-serve packets of low-fat popcorn that can be micro-waved later.

Non-food treats: plastic rings, pencils, stickers, erasers, coins.



108th ARW Services return from deployment

by Tech Sgt. Lauren Holba
108th ARW Services Squadron

Nine 108th Air Refueling Wing Services members deployed to Al Dhafra Air Base from May 17-Sept. 21, 2008. The team consisted of Master Sgt. Rose Condello, Tech. Sgt. Bryant Sharpe, Staff Sgts. David McDonald, Eduardo Cornier and Noelle Smith, Senior Airmen Melissa Woodhull, Frank Incognito and Saywonza Cuevas and Airman 1st Class Demetrius Reyes.

The 108th became the 380th Services Squadron and were among a squadron of 60 Active Duty and Guard members in Al Dhafra.

The members were spread out working in almost every section of Services. There were members in the Fitness Center, Dining Hall, Containerized Deployable Kitchen, Lodging Office, Trips and Tours, and one of our members was the

Marketing Director for all of the Armed Forces Entertainment.

Along with completing their everyday jobs, the Services Squadron

was tasked with putting together a huge Fourth of July event. This event was a huge success, and the members were presented with certificates for their hard work.

In the middle of their deployment, the Services Commander completed her tour, and before leaving presented all nine members a Services Coin for being the best Guard unit she has ever come across.

While all the members are happy to be home, they all say that it was a great experience and a great team to deploy with.



Brig. Gen. Michael Cuniff, the 108th ARW Commander, and Command Master Sgt. Vincent Morton welcome Staff Sgt. Eduardo Cornier and the other members of the 108th Services Squadron back from deployment. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Lauren Holba.

Commander's Column

Energy from page 2

percent. For longer-term savings, consider a high-mileage vehicle for your next purchase.

Track Your Energy Costs with a Home Energy Audit

An energy audit will show you which areas of your home use the most energy and help you decide the most effective way to reduce energy costs. You can conduct a simple audit yourself, contact your local utility or call an independent energy auditor for a more comprehensive examination. Check your home's insulation levels and check for open fireplace dampers. Look for holes or cracks around doors, light and plumbing fixtures and other places where air may leak into or out of your home. Make sure your appliances and heating and cooling systems are properly maintained and study your family's lighting needs and use patterns, paying special attention to high-use areas.

This Winter, Save Money and Stay Warm

Keep your energy bill and your pollution output low this winter by taking a whole-house approach to heating. Start with setting your thermostat as low as is comfortable. A programmable thermostat can help by adjusting the temperature according to your schedule—it can cut back heating at night, for instance, and turn it up again before you rise in the morning. It's also important to weatherize your home—caulk and weatherstrip any doors and windows that leak air. Make sure your equipment is properly maintained and cleaned and that furnace filters are replaced regularly. Finally, insulation is inadequate in many homes. Check the insulation in your attic, ceilings, exterior and basement walls, floors and crawl spaces to see if it meets the levels recommended for your area.

Keep Your Energy Bill Out of Hot Water

Water heating can be expensive, but there are a number of ways to lower your costs. One way is to use less water. Repair leaky faucets

immediately and use low-flow shower heads. (A family of four, each showering for five minutes a day, uses 700 gallons of water a week; you can cut that amount in half by using low-flow aerating showerheads.) Insulate your hot-water storage tank and pipes and drain a quart of water from your water tank every three months to remove sediment that impedes heat transfer and lowers the efficiency of your heater (follow the manufacturer's instructions). Lower the thermostat on your water heater to 120 degrees; water heaters



sometimes come from the factory with higher temperature settings than are necessary. When buying a new water heater, compare Energy Guide labels to find an energy-efficient model. Also, contemplate an "on-demand" heater, they really cut down on your energy usage, you never run out of hot water, and they take up much less space than a traditional tank style water heater.

Lower Your Lighting Costs

Increasing your lighting efficiency is one of the fastest ways to decrease your electricity bills. Turn off the lights in any room you're not using or consider installing timers, photo cells or occupancy sensors to reduce the amount of time your lights are on. Use task lighting; instead of brightly lighting an entire room, focus the light where you need it. For example, use

fluorescent under-cabinet lighting for kitchen sinks and countertops under cabinets. Consider three-way lamps; they make it easier to keep lighting levels low when brighter light is not necessary. Finally, use compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs); they are much more efficient than incandescent bulbs and last six to 10 times longer. CFLs are more expensive than incandescent bulbs, but they pay for themselves by saving energy over their lifetime.

Close the Window on High Energy Bills

If your home has single-pane windows, as almost half of U.S. homes do, consider replacing them. New double-pane windows with high-performance glass are available on the market. In colder climates, select windows that are gas filled with low-emissivity (low-e) coatings on the glass to reduce heat loss. In warmer climates, select windows with spectrally selective coatings to reduce heat gain. If you decide not to replace your windows, there are other ways to improve their performance. In cold climates, close your curtains and shades at night and open them during the day. Installing storm windows can also reduce your heat loss, by up to 50 percent. In warm climates, install white window coverings to reflect heat away from the house and close south- and west-facing curtains during the day.

Insulate Your Home Against High Energy Bills

A good insulating system can help keep your home warm during winter and cool during summer. Check the insulation in your attic, ceilings, exterior and basement walls, floors and crawl spaces to see if it meets the levels recommended for your area. (Insulation is measured in R-values — the higher the R-value, the better your walls and roof will resist the transfer of heat.) Consider factors such as your climate, building design and budget when selecting insulation R-value. The easiest and most cost-effective way to insulate your home is to add insulation in the attic.

108th ARW Recruiting Office Awards

From the 108th ARW Recruiting Office

With the end of the fiscal year behind us, the 108th Recruiting Office recognized some key players on Oct. 6, 2008.

The recruiting office has a point based system that allows each of the recruiters to compete for Recruiter of the Month, Recruiter of the Quarter and Recruiter of the Year.

There are seven that are targeted for these awards, 1st is the number of enlistments; second, number of school visits or weekly activities the recruiter participated in; third, is the use of the Air Force Recruiting Integrated Support System; fourth is based on the number of mail out the recruiter accomplished for the month; fifth is the effective manning or critical AFSC that they fill; sixth is points for achieving above goal; and the seventh area is the Recruiter Satisfaction Survey.

This tool is used to measure the new enlistee's satisfaction with their recruiter.

This past year the competition has been close and was broken down as follows:

First Quarter winner was Tech. Sgt. Tamika Covington

Second Quarter winner was Tech. Sgt. Lakisha Meniffee

Third Quarter winner was Tech. Sgt. Shane Clark

Fourth Quarter winner was Staff Sgt. Christopher Shaw

With four different quarterly winners, it seems to be difficult to select a winner for the entire year but this is a point-based system, so the recruiter with the most points for the year is ...

The Recruiter of the Year Winner for fiscal year 2008. And that recruiter is:

Tech. Sgt. Shane Clark

He has 48 enlistments for the year and his points total 353 points. Please take a few minutes to congratulate all of the recruiters for enlisting 165 new members into the 108th ARW.

A special presentation was given to Master Sgt. Jacqueline Hartsfield, NCOIC of Customer Service.

All of the recruiters voted Hartsfield as the most helpful customer support with enlistments.

She was given a Certificate of Appreciation, a coin, and ANG shirt.



Young Says Farewell After 40 Years of Service

*by Tech Sgt. Barbara Harbison
Wing Tips co-editor*

After more than 40 years in the military, Chief Master Sgt. Terry Young hung up his uniform this month and retired.

Chief Young enlisted in the Air Force in 1967 and spent four years on active duty. During that first tour, he spent one year in Vietnam honing his skills as an aerospace photographic equipment repairman.

After an 18 month break in service, Young found himself back in uniform, this time as part of the 177th Fighter Wing performing duties as chief of the photo lab. After a stint in the job as full-timer, he went into the civilian world repairing cameras for 15 years while continuing as a Guardsman.

He found himself back in the uniform fulltime, again as the photo lab chief, only now at the 170th Air Refueling Group. As the years

progressed, the 170th reorganized to the 108th ARW and Young worked as a maintenance analyst, quality advisor and internal review auditor for USPFO. He moved from New Jersey to Delaware, working fulltime for the USPFO there but continuing his New Jersey Air Guard commitment serving in the JFHQ. He currently works for the Air Force Audit Agency, Dover, Del.

Chief Young recently deployed for 45 days to Balad Air Base, Iraq as part of his civilian job as an auditor for the Air Force Audit Agency. He was part of a team of six people who performed various types of audits on the base; Young's specialty was construction.

As Young looks back on his career in the Air Guard, he believes his most important job was trying to make other people's jobs easier. He also admitted that on a personal level it was very thrilling flying in the back seat of premier U.S. aircraft to work the cameras and hone his photographic

skills. "It has been a pure honor to have that opportunity," he stated.

"It has also been an honor to be associated with the New Jersey Air Guard," he said. "They are the most professional military in the U.S. I would put them head to head against the others – and I have seen a few," he stated with a smile.

Young still has another six years until he will retire from his fulltime job to enjoy retired life with his wife, Georgia; daughter Kristin, a software developer in Seattle, Wash.; and Capt. Eric Young, member of the Delaware Air Guard, and father of Young's two grandsons. He is looking forward to expanding his hobbies from bicycling and a little golf – "I golf occasionally and I am not real good at it," was his quote – and possibly add fly fishing to the repertoire.

May the next phase of his life be as fulfilling as his years in uniform were for him.

HRA Office Hosts Local College

*By Senior Master Sgt. Tammy Cartagena
108th Human Resource Advisor*

The HRA office is hosting a college representative to assist New Jersey Air National Guard personnel to get started on a wonderful learning opportunity. For those of you that have been saying for years: I have to finish my college degree - this is the place for you!!!!

On Nov. 22, a representative from Thomas Edison State College will be in the 108th ARW HRA office (room 111B, building 3327) to assist personnel. Thomas Edison offers courses online and "blended learning" classes here at McGuire, with all courses being accomplished online.

Normally, the office hours are Monday through Friday 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. at the Education Center. This can be an inconvenience for those coming in from northern or southern Jersey.

All tuition costs will be free. Another bonus to signing up here on McGuire is all fees will also be waived. This benefit is only for McGuire Air Force Base military members (or members of the Air Guard-to include 177FW personnel).

In order to take advantage of this benefit for your associate's or bachelor's degree, you will need to accomplish the following three items:

- Fill out the application for Thomas Edison on the following website. [https://ssl.tesc.edu/](https://ssl.tesc.edu/onlineadm/web/AdmDefault.jsp#)

[onlineadm/web/AdmDefault.jsp#](https://ssl.tesc.edu/onlineadm/web/AdmDefault.jsp#).

There is a \$75 non-refundable fee to process the application.

- Fill out the Federal Aid Form (FASFA) using the following website: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. This is required to be completed by all schools, prior to them awarding the "free tuition" offered by New Jersey.

- Have a certification form signed by your commander, valid within one month of the classes you wish to take.

To begin in the January term - you need to have the application completed by Nov. 15, 2008. If you have any questions, or need assistance with any of your paperwork, please e-mail or call Senior Master Sgt. Tammy Cartagena at 609-754- 8194.

Free YMCA Membership

Stars and Stripes and the Department of Defense has announced free family memberships for many servicemembers and their families at participating YMCAs. The new program is effective immediately.

The free YMCA memberships for Guard and Reserve families will be available while the servicemember is deployed for a minimum of six months. The deploying servicemember will also be eligible for three months pre- and post deployment membership to promote family participation, according to a recent news release.

Active-duty families assigned to independent duty stations, such as recruiting and ROTC assignments and not currently receiving support from the service component will also be eligible for free memberships. Single servicemembers are eligible for fitness center memberships worth up to \$50 a month.

Active-duty families at select bases will also be eligible as part of a pilot program. Memberships will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis

with 300 to 450 family memberships available per joint base location, according to the news release.

Additionally, 32 hours a month of free respite child care will be available for families of deployed National Guard and Reserve and geographically dispersed active-duty servicemembers in 10 states with YMCA child care programs pre-approved by DOD.

Signing up for the program requires a YMCA/DOD eligibility form, a copy of deployment orders and military ID. The YMCA/DOD eligibility form is available at www.military-onesource.com.



108th Marksmanship Team Wins Again

*By Master Sgt. James Johnson
Marksman team member*

The N.J. State Match Rifle Championship was held on Sept. 13 at Cumberland Rifleman Range in Millville. Senior Master Sgt. Joseph Burkel finished in second place overall and won the Master classification with a score of 767-16X.

This accomplishment is noteworthy as Burkel competed using a service rifle against the match rifle which has many advantages over the service rifle. He did change the pistol grip to a match type grip so he would be eligible to win the championship. In the end, he just fell short of winning the title but won his classification.

The 108th Marksmanship Team competed in the reduced state championships in September. Anyone interested in joining the team should contact Senior Master Sgt. Burkel at 754-1392.

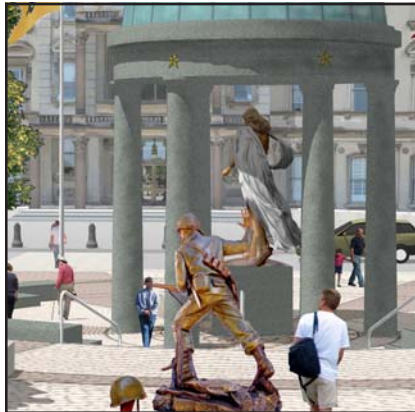
Congressman Saxton Retires



Saying his goodbyes.... Congressman Jim Saxton had his final farewell press conference Sept. 22, 2008. 108th Air Refueling Wing members attended to show their appreciation for the congressman for all his dedication and support that he provided to the 108th ARW while in office. Congressman Saxton will retire at the end of his current term and will not seek re-election.

Come to the New Jersey World War II memorial dedication

On Veterans Day, Tuesday, November 11, 2008, Governor Jon S Corzine and Major General Glenn K. Rieth will be dedicating the New Jersey World War II Memorial. Veterans Day is a fitting occasion to honor the men and women of the Greatest Generation for the sacrifices they made on behalf of our country more than 60 years ago. The ceremony will take place at 2:30pm at the Statehouse Plaza across from the Memorial.



Please save this date on your calendar and pass the information onto everyone who would like to join us for this momentous event. The tribute promises to be an occasion that will make every Veteran and all New Jerseyans proud.

Mindful that a great many of you are having your own parades and ceremonies to honor local veterans on November 11th, we have planned our ceremony for later in the day. We hope that this will allow everyone to attend the dedication.

For additional information or to RSVP please call Ms. Angela Como at 609-530-6780 or visit our website at www.nj.gov/military/veterans/wwii_memorial/index.html.

Strikes, balls, home runs...



One, two, three, he's out... More than two-hundred 108th Air Refueling Wing members and their families attended the Freedom Alliance Mobility Appreciation Night at a New York Mets baseball game on Sept. 23, 2008. Here Staff Sgt. Tenisha Schexnayder and sons Daniel, 3, and Immanuel, 9, enjoy the evening. Photo by 1st Lt. April Kelly.



Brig. Gen. Michael Cunniff (left) stands with Prakash Donde, president of Jenny Engineering Corporation and Staff Sgt. Will Griffin with the Small Corporation Pro Patria ESGR award on Sept 25 at Drumthwacket. Griffin nominated Jenny Engineering for the award because of the support they provided to him and his family during his multiple deployments. Photo by 1st Lt. April Kelly, 108th ARW PAO.

Core values and what they really mean

By Staff Sgt. Wendi Higgins

Most of us have had the Air Force Core Values drilled into our heads from the time we raised our right hand and took our oath. From Student Flight to Basic Military Training we were taught to adhere to these values, but sometimes as we progress through our careers or when we finish Basic Training all of that drilling becomes nothing more than textbook knowledge; something we merely memorized.

Sure we know "Integrity First" as defined by the T.I.'s is "doing the right thing even when no one is looking". That's certainly a simplified definition. Of course we should be doing the right thing even when no one is looking, but integrity also involves being accountable even when we're wrong, keeping our word, and putting in a full days work for a full days pay.

So when we talk about "service before self", it too doesn't stop at "when the President calls me up I have to stop what I'm doing and go". It means that we should all be working together, striving for a common goal. No one of us is any more important

than the other, and as much as we'd like to believe the world revolves around each of us, the fact is it doesn't. This isn't to say we should deny ourselves, but as Airmen, we are not only expected to be different than our civilian counterparts, we are different. We have different responsibilities and criteria we must live up to. Civilians have the luxury of giving up, not trying or simply not doing something because "they don't feel like it", we don't. We must always do our best, and we are always expected to make sacrifices in some shape or form.

Which brings us to "excellence in all we do"; most of us believe that merely means we should do our jobs well, and it does. However, in all of our lifetimes we will inevitably work with or for someone that has become complacent, someone that doesn't have high standards or demand anything more than they're willing to give. What separates us as individuals and Airmen is the ability to not let someone else's complacency dictate the standards we set for ourselves. These are values, not just for the Air

Force, but values that should be applied in everything we do and everywhere we go. Whether we're in the civilian world, school or here at the 108th, we should always deal with people fairly, honestly and respectfully. We should always strive to go the distance for others, and of course we should always maintain high standards for ourselves and the people we work with. This is what makes a successful team, and breeds individual success in the long run.

Whether we're on duty or off, civilians look at us as guardians; the people they can go to in crisis, the people who defend this country. Most of us have been approached by civilians while in uniform just so they can say "thank you" or shake our hands. They respect us. We should never breach that trust and respect by being sloppy or unprofessional (not adhering to the core values). Remember, there are troops that were denied what we get from civilians today. If we don't adhere to the core values, we not only dishonor them, but we dishonor our service and ourselves.

Medical squadron commander vacancy

The 108th Air Refueling Wing has a vacancy for a Medical Commander/ Surgeon (AFSC 40Co) which has a maximum military grade of colonel/ O-6.

Any colonel or "eligible" lieutenant colonel desiring consideration should prepare an application package consisting of a letter of intent, detailed resume of military and civilian experience, letter of recommendation from individual's unit commander and a current report of individual personnel (RIP), obtained from your orderly room. Submit applications to the 108th ARW Executive Officer, 3327 Charles Blvd, McGuire AFB NJ 08641-5406, Attention: 2nd Lt. John Dwyer, no later than 4 p.m. Dec. 6, 2008.

Duties will include, but not limited to: Commands medical unit, directs health care activities and coordinates

health care service activities, conducts staff meetings, convenes and appoints boards, councils and committees to assist in managing assigned activities. A complete position description may be found in AFMAN 36-2105. Knowledge is mandatory of: management concepts and objectives and their relationship to mission accomplishment; relationship of military and health care doctrine, contingency, and medical readiness planning; strategic planning; Air Force flying mission and associated health care requirements; information management; Air Force policy directives and instructions; military justice; conflict resolution; managing quality; communication and interpersonal skills; principles of medical administration; financial management; personnel; and materiel and facilities management. For entry

into this specialty, it is mandatory to possess a degree leading to award of a medical AFSC. For award of AFSC 40CoX, prior experience is mandatory in a medical command position, or experience in one or more senior health care management positions within preceding five (5) years. Senior health care management positions include Chief, Hospital or Clinic Services; Chief Nurse; Base Dental Surgeon; Chief, Aerospace Medicine; Administrator; Chief of Pharmacy, Laboratory, or other biomedical sciences function; or other clinical or health care service or department-level management positions. Candidates will be scheduled for a board interview. The 108th Wing Commander will make the final selection/approval. This is a traditional Guard military position. For duty related questions, please contact Lt. Dwyer, at DSN 650-3683, or (609) 754-3683.